



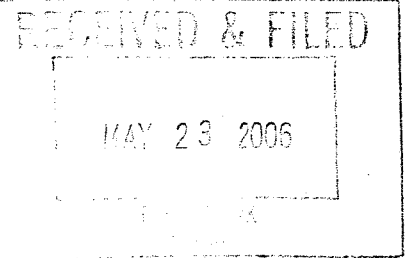
**FYI**

## RECREATION COMMISSION

### Minutes of Meeting

April 11, 2006 @ 7 PM

Acton Town Hall, Room 126



Recreation Commission members Mr. Ron Schlegel, Ms. Sasha O'Connell, Mr. Matthew Lundberg, Ms. Michele Zaremba and Ms. Alison Gallagher were present. Also present were Ms. Alison Trout, Recreation Director and Ms. Maura Haberman, Recreation Secretary.

Mr. Schlegel called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

#### **I. CITIZENS CONCERNS**

Ms. Trout opened this discussion to inform the Recreation Commission about a citizen complaint received regarding dog waste was not being cleaned up after at NARA Park. This citizen had asked that a letter be submitted to Acton Beacon on behalf of Recreation Department. It was suggested by Mr. Don Johnson, Town Manager, to have Ms. Trout go to the Recreation Commission and draft a letter to the Board of Selectmen to address this issue for a possible leash law for NARA Park. Ms. Zaremba recalled a situation from a dog bite in 2004 at NARA, and the attempt to control dogs at NARA. In the past, a leash law was passed by a narrow margin at Town Meeting, but was later pulled from the books. Mr. Schlegel informed the board that Great Hill also has a dog problem. Mr. Lundberg recommended that NARA have a leash law as all pieces of NARA are used for active recreation for people. Ms. Trout has taught classes where dogs have interrupted and approached kids. Ms. Trout agreed with Mr. Lundberg that a leash law can be written. Ms. Gallagher informed the Commission that Selectmen Hunter has mentioned in Selectmen's meetings that Great Hill has been an issue with dog control and thought he would probably like to see a change as they too have seen a numerous amounts of complaints on these same issues. If a document was prepared by the Recreation Commission it would go to Town Meeting. It would be good to have a dog park, and it was proposed for Morrison Park. Ms. Trout said that this is about the safety of the users and not all dogs can be on their best behavior. Mr. Lundberg recommended that guidelines be listed, and staff needs to enforce the rules. Ms. Trout informed the Recreation Commission that the NARA Park staff which is mostly seventeen-year-olds can not enforce town law, and people won't abide the signs. Tentatively, until next months meeting and more investigation can be done, the Recreation Commission will recommend to the Board of Selectmen that inside NARA Park, it is used for active recreation and dogs should be leashed.

A second citizen concern was brought forward for discussion. A Community Garden participant would like to have a call box installed for specifically for elderly participants, which was brought to the attention of the Recreation Department while on-site. The Recreation Commission has recommended to pass this safety recommendation request to the Police and Fire Department.

#### **II. MINUTES**

Minutes for March 7, 2006 were approved as amended.

#### **III. 5 VISIONARY GOALS**

Ms. Trout reviewed the mission statement from the March meeting which will be applied to shirts and recreation programs: *Building a sense of community through quality recreation.*

#### **IV: Recreation Commission Recruitment**

This agenda item was not discussed.

#### **V. ABYB Signs for Field Maintenance**

Acton-Boxborough Youth Baseball was seeking to get approval for signage at Veterans Field where funds donated for signs will be used for field maintenance. The Recreation Commission said the signs must not have sharp edges. The signs submitted for approval are for: Workers Credit Union, Not Your Average Joe's, and Thatcher Photography. Motion made by Ms. Gallagher to approve signs for Veteran's Fields with funding for field maintenance, seconded by Mr. Lundberg, passed 5-0.

#### **VI. ABYB Approval Signs for Veterans**

Acton Boxborough Youth Baseball submitted sample signs for athletic facilities for safety and known risk which they would like to have displayed at Veteran's Field. The Recreation Commission would like to know the size of the size and specific language of the signage. They would like Ms. Trout to oversee the specifics and approval of signage prior to display. A Motion was made by Mr. Lundberg for conditional signage with of acceptance specific language of approval of Recreation Director seconded by Ms. Gallagher, passed 5-0.

#### **VII. Playground Volunteer Opportunity**

Ms. Trout surveyed the conditions of the playgrounds with a representative from Landscape Structures (a playground company). An e-mail from Mr. Gary Sullivan, an Acton Citizen, was received by Ms. Trout. Mr. Sullivan has offered to spearhead a volunteer group to help improve our playgrounds and put together a working party to spruce up the playgrounds. The Acton Family Network has offered to stain the playground. Mr. Lundberg motioned to approve staining Goward Playground, seconded by Ms. O'Connell passed 5-0.

#### **VIII. Appointing Commissioners to Concerts**

Ms. Trout is seeking appointing Recreation Commissioner's help in cultural concert series with responsibility in various areas: i.e. help with announcement, ticketing, and recreation representative. It was also mentioned during this discussion that no dogs are allowed at any of the venues.

June 24 Livingston Taylor (Rain date-June 25)	Mr. Lundberg, Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Zaremba
June 29 Vento Chiaro	Mr. Lundberg
July 4 (Rain date-July 8)	Mr. Scheigel, Mr. Lundberg
July 14 Second Story Band	Mr. Lundberg
July 22 Pink Voyd (Rain Date-July 23)	Mr. Lundberg, Ms. Gallagher
July 29 Disney Movie Night	Ms. Gallagher
Aug. 4 Help Wanted Band	Mr. Lundberg
Aug 12 The Drifter's and John Anthony as Rod Stewart (Rain Date: Aug. 13)	Mr. Lundberg/Mr. Schlegel
Aug. 19 Double Header Movie Night	Mr. Lundberg
Aug. 26 KISS Summer of Fun Concert-Family Fest (Rain Date: Aug. 27)	Mr. Lundberg, Ms. Gallagher

*Note: Recreation Commissioners did express that they want to do more dates but needed their calendars.*

#### **IX. 5K Run For the Beach 8-9 PM**

Three volunteers have joined in to meet regularly and move forward with Ms. O'Connell, Ms. Trout and Ms. Haberman on the logistics of the 5K Run for the Beach and NARA Kids Fun Run on Aug. 26. The next meeting date is TBD.

The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2006.

The meeting adjourned 9:00 p.m.